

Advice to Householders - Bedbug Treatment



The use of insecticides in the UK is covered by statutory controls and, consequently, those selected for their effectiveness against bedbug infestations have been approved for use in all domestic properties. Furthermore our pest control technicians in accordance with regulations are fully trained and hold industry recognised qualifications, and will carry out a specific hazard / risk assessment before commencing treatment.

Customer advice

Your co-operation is requested in adopting the following precautions to minimise any risks to occupants and pets.

Bedbug Treatment – it is worth noting that bedbugs don't distinguish between clean and dirty homes, and are usually brought into a home on clothing, or in luggage or furniture.

It is recommended that prior to treatment the property is thoroughly vacuumed, with the contents sealed in a bag and appropriately disposed of. All bedding and clothing should be placed in sealable plastic bags in order to limit the possibility of spreading the infestation throughout the home. Clothing should be washed at high temperature or in the case of delicate fabrics dry cleaned – refer to garment label for information. Be vigilant when using shared laundry facilities.

It is important that affected areas are tidy and in an orderly manner, allowing effective treatment to take place.

Before treatment is carried out it is important that children and pets are removed from the house and do not return until the insecticide has dried – which can be up to 4 hours.

Treatment usually consists of using residual insecticides applied by compression sprayer to floor surfaces, wall/floor junctions, bed frame, mattresses (not bedding), furniture ie wardrobes/drawers and selected soft furnishings. Aquatic life (fish tanks, etc) require covering or removal from the property due to susceptibility to insecticides.

On re-entry, it is advisable to vent the property allowing fresh air to circulate by opening windows and doors. In order to achieve control and break the bedbug life cycle it is recommended that carpeted areas or hard floor surfaces are not vacuumed or mopped for a period of two weeks following treatment. Clean up any dead bedbugs found on surfaces and flooring and dispose of in external bins.

Due to the nature of bedbugs it is likely that they will be some activity, albeit reduced, during the course of the treatment and, consequently, it is important that bedrooms or the property are not vacated. Bedbugs can survive without feeding for up to 12 months and will lay dormant during this period, only emerging when a host presents its self.